Reply Comments to Broadband Over Power Line 03-104

Approval of BPL would interfere with communications over the majority of the entire HF and low VHF spectrum at virtually every location in the USA that is reasonably close to a power line. This fact has been well documented by the ARRL in its filings.

There are numerous technologies (DSL, Cable, WiFi, satellite, etc) available today that <u>are</u> competing to serve customers throughout the country. There has certainly been no slowdown in the rate of technology development, so there will be more tomorrow. The primary reason that broadband is not available to many customers is cost. There are still numerous areas that have do not have broadband service simply because the cost of deployment is high. I have not seen data presented that indicates that this service will be any less costly to serve customers in lightly populated areas.

This one service has the capability to make the entire HF and low VHF spectrum unusable in most of the country. If there were a compelling reason for this service, and it was the only technology available, one could understand why the Commission would seriously consider this service even with its obvious downside. This is not the case. There is and will be competition. Growth of broadband has been slowed by the economic recession and the debt load of many of the companies providing these services. Prior to 2001, broadband service was expanding at a high rate. Why would anyone who is rational decide to allow pollution of this entire range of frequencies when there are currently so many alternatives?

Interference to this service is even more likely to occur as transmitted power levels are increased in order to raise signals above the "new" ambient noise level.

This proposal is one of the more ridiculous that I have <u>ever</u> heard. And believe me, as an engineer in the defense industry, I've heard many, many ridiculous proposals over the years.

Please consider the long term consequences of this action.

Zollie R. Compton, Jr.